

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This application relates to commonly assigned copending application Serial No. 10/625,375(~~85507~~), entitled PHOTOCHROMIC DYES FOR MICROSPHERE BASED SENSOR, application Serial No. 10/625,637(~~85677~~), entitled COLORABLE POLYMERIC PARTICLES WITH BIOLOGICAL PROBES, and application Serial No. 10/625,684, now U.S. Patent No. 6,914,106(~~85486~~), entitled LARGE POLYMER BEADS CONTAINING COUPLERS AND METHOD OF PREPARATION filed simultaneously herewith. The copending applications are incorporated by reference herein for all that they contain.--